EL POLVORÍN

THE WALKING DEAD

186

KIRKMAN ADLARD GAUDIANO RATHBURN AT-ZOMBIEFACTORY

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THE WALKING DEAD
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THE WALKING DEAD™

186: EL POLVORÍN

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DISEÑO DE PRODUCCIÓN POR **ANDRES JUAREZ**   PRODUCCIÓN POR **CARINA TAYLOR**

ANTERIORMENTE:

La proposición de Dwight de tomar la Mancomunidad por la fuerza es rechazada por Rick, que no quiere otra guerra. Sin embargo, Dwight no puede dejar las cosas en paz, y empieza un altercado con los guardas de la Mancomunidad para incitar a una revuelta, que sólo le conduce a una celda. Pero Dwight no es el único que presiona a Rick para que se convierta en el nuevo líder de la Mancomunidad, ya que Mercer le hace una proposición por su cuenta...

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HOLA, SOY JOSH... SOY... NUEVO AQUÍ. NO CONOZCO A NADIE. ¿TE... IMPORTA SI ME SIENTO AQUÍ?
ESTÁ BIEN.

¿QUÉ ESTÁS HACIENDO?
CREÍA QUE ESTABAS DORMIDO... ¡SAL DE AQUÍ!
¡VETE A LA COCINA!
VALE, PERO ¿TODO VA BIEN?
ESTOY RECOLOCANDO MI PELUCA.
¿PELUCA?
OH, ¿CREES QUE ALGUNAS MUJERES NEGRAS TIENEN EL PELO LISO Y SUAVE ***DE FORMA NATURAL?***
NO. AHORA VETE, NO QUIERO QUE ME VEAS ASÍ.
¿POR QUÉ LLEVAS PELUCA?
PORQUE ME HACE SENTIR BIEN. ***VETE.***
VALE, VALE.
PERDÓN, PERDÓN.
¿QUIERES VER MI VERDADERO PELO?

AQUÍ ESTÁ.
¿YA ESTÁS CONTENTO?
SÍ, LO ESTOY.
CREO QUE ERES PRECIOSA ESTÉS COMO ESTÉS.
ESO ES MUY DULCE.
TIENES UN ASPECTO GENIAL SIN ELLA.
SÍ, SÍ. NO LA LLEVO PARA *TI*, ASÍ QUE LÁRGATE Y DÉJAME ACABAR.
SÍ, SEÑORA, YA ME VOY.

POR FIN.
TIENES MUCHA SUERTE DE QUE TE DEJARAN SALIR DESPUÉS DE LO QUE HICISTE.
¿EN QUÉ DIABLOS ESTABAS PENSANDO? PODRÍAN HABERTE MATADO.
¿ESO NO PODRÍA SUCEDER CADA DÍA?
AL MENOS ESTO PODRÍA HABER SIDO POR ALGO QUE IMPORTA.
SABES QUE ESTOY DE ACUERDO CONTIGO. ESTA GENTE NECESITA QUE ALGUIEN LES SALVE, BIEN PODRÍAMOS SER NOSOTROS.
PERO ¿POR QUÉ TANTA PRISA? CREO QUE ESTO ES ALGO CON LO QUE TENEMOS QUE TOMARNOS NUESTRO TIEMPO.
PERDÓNAME SI EL QUE LA GENTE SEA GOLPEADA HASTA LA MUERTE EN LA CALLE ME DA CIERTO SENTIDO DE URGENCIA.
NO ESTOY INTENTANDO QUITARLE IMPORTANCIA A LAS COSAS. SÓLO ESTOY DICIENDO QUE TIENE QUE HABER UN PLAN. NI SIQUIERA DISCUTIMOS LO QUE HICISTE ANTES.
¿QUÉ PIENSA RICK DE TODO ESTO?
ÉL ESTARÁ DE ACUERDO.

¿ÉL DIJO ESO?
LO HIZO.
Y CREO QUE IBA **EN SERIO.**
ENTONCES, ¿QUÉ?
¿QUÉ VAS A **HACER?**
NO LO SÉ, PERO DESPUÉS DE HABLAR CON MERCER, ESTOY PENSANDO QUE TAL VEZ DWIGHT TIENE RAZÓN SOBRE ESTE LUGAR...
¿QUÉ?
VAMOS, MICHONNE. TIENES QUE ADMITIR QUE ESTE LUGAR NO ES PERFECTO... PERO NO ME MALINTERPRETES, ESTÁ **CERCA.**
MÁS CERCA DE LO QUE DWIGHT PARECE RECONOCER, PERO TIENE RAZÓN CON QUE ESA GENTE NECESITA AYUDA...
...Y TIENE RAZÓN SOBRE QUE ESA GENTE NOS APOYARÁ SI INTEN-TAMOS TOMAR EL CONTROL.
OH DIOS MÍO-- **¡¿QUÉ?!**

LO SIENTO, PERO EL SISTEMA QUE HAY AQUÍ ES COMPLETAMENTE RETRÓGRADO E INJUSTO. NO PUEDO QUEDARME DE BRAZOS CRUZADOS TRANQUILAMENTE E IGNORAR ESO.
NO CREO QUE TÚ PUEDAS QUEDARTE DE BRAZOS CRUZADOS E IGNORAR ESO.
LA MANCOMUNIDAD TIENE MUCHAS POSIBILIDADES DE MEJORA. ESO ES LO QUE ME EMOCIONA TANTO DE ESTAR AQUÍ--LO QUE PUEDE HACERSE CON LA GENTE QUE HAY AQUÍ.
Y TIENES RAZÓN, NECESITAN AYUDA...
...PERO NO NECESITAN ESTO.
NECESITAN ESTO.
NECESITAMOS TU MENTE, TU SENTIDO DE LA JUSTICIA.
TODO LO QUE TIENES QUE HACER ES MOSTRARLES UNA MANERA MEJOR.

NADIE SE VA, PEDIMOS MÁS COMIDA SI TENEMOS QUE HACERLO. ESTE VA A SER EL ALMUERZO MÁS LARGO DE LA HISTORIA.
AHORA NO TE VEMOS NUNCA, ELODIE, ASÍ QUE TENEMOS QUE APROVECHARLO AL MÁXIMO.
LO SÉ, CHICOS. LAS COSAS HAN SIDO UNA LOCURA ÚLTIMAMENTE. LO SIENTO--HOY ESTARÉ AQUÍ TODO EL DÍA. LO PROMETO.
MIRA, ESTAMOS REALMENTE FELICES POR TI... MUY CONTENTOS DE QUE ENCONTRARAS A TU MADRE...
...PERO--
NANCY, NO.
¿QUÉ?
¿QUÉ PASA?
ES SÓLO... TU MADRE. HA CABREADO A MUCHA GENTE DEFENDIENDO A ESOS GUARDIAS, Y AHORA TÚ ESTÁS VIVIENDO EN ESE NUEVO LUGAR CON ELLA... NO SÉ...
...CON TODO LO QUE ESTÁ PASANDO AQUÍ, NOS PREOCUPA EN QUÉ BANDO ESTÁS.
¿BANDO?

NO, NO TENGO NINGUNA RAZÓN PARA ESTAR ALARMADA. SÓLO INTENTO SER PRECAVIDA.
RICK ME DEJÓ AL CARGO. QUIERO ESTAR PREPARADA PARA CUALQUIER COSA. ¿ESTÁN DICIENDO QUE ESO ES DEMASIADO PROBLEMA?
NO ESTOY DICIENDO ESO EN ABSOLUTO. ES SÓLO QUE YA SABES LO RÁPIDO QUE SE PROPAGAN LAS NOTICIAS POR AQUÍ. ES DIFÍCIL DECIRLE A NUESTRA MILICIA QUE ESTÉN PREPARADOS SIN QUE SE PREOCUPEN POR PARA QUÉ TIENEN QUE ESTAR PREPARADOS.
LA GENTE VIO A ESOS GUARDIAS ARMADOS CUANDO ESTUVIERON AQUÍ. TODOS SABEN QUE SE ESTÁ GESTANDO ALGO.
NO, VINCENT. NO SE ESTÁ "GESTANDO" NADA. SÓLO QUIERO ESTAR PREPARADA POR SI ALGO EMPIEZA A GESTARSE.
DE ACUERDO, NO ESTÁ PASANDO NADA, TODO ESTÁ BIEN, PERO QUIERES QUE TODO EL MUNDO ESTÉ ALERTA Y PREPARADO POR SI ACASO DE REPENTE LAS COSAS NO VAN BIEN. CREO QUE YA LO ENTIENDO.
SABES QUE ESE ES MÁS O MENOS EL STATUS QUO POR AQUÍ, ¿VERDAD?
POR SUPUESTO QUE LO SÉ. SÓLO QUIERO QUE USTEDES DOS SEPAN QUE ESTOY PREOCUPADA.
ASÍ QUE SEA CUAL SEA EL NIVEL DE ALERTA CON EL QUE ESTÁN OPERANDO NORMALMENTE, QUIERO QUE LO INCREMENTEN.
¿DE ACUER-DO?
PODEMOS HACER ESO.
SÍ.

ESCOGERÉ EL DE LA DERECHA CON LA CAMISA A CUADROS.
EXCELENTE ELECCIÓN, GOBERNADORA.
GRACIAS, MAXWELL.
CLICK

¡KPOW!

¡GRAN DISPARO!
GRACIAS. MERCER, ¿SERÍAS TAN AMABLE?

¡SHUKK!
BIEN, CREO QUE YA ES BASTANTE POR HOY. ¿QUÉ LES PARECE SI REGRESAMOS?
POR MÍ BIEN. DESDE UN PRINCIPIO YO NO QUERÍA VENIR.
¿DEBERÍAMOS AYUDARLE?
MERCER LO TIENE BAJO CONTROL. VAMOS, YA NOS ALCANZARÁ.

¿DE QUÉ DEMONIOS IBA TODO ESO?
OH, ¿NUNCA HABÍAN ESTADO EN UNA PARTIDA DE CAZA ANTES? DEBERÍA HABERLO ACLARADO ANTES DE QUE SALIÉRAMOS.
LA GOBERNADORA NORMALMENTE NOS HACE DEJAR UNOS POCOS REZAGADOS EN LAS AFUERAS, NO LOS SUFICIENTES COMO PARA SER UN PELIGRO.
LE GUSTA LLEVAR A UN GRUPO AHÍ FUERA PARA QUE PAREZCA QUE ELLA HACE SU PARTE EN MANTENER LA ZONA SEGURA.
LE DAN ALGO QUE HACER.
¡¿ASÍ QUE TODO ESO FUE SÓLO PARA APARENTAR?!
NO SÉ QUÉ DECIRLES. CASI TODO POR AQUÍ ES PARA APARENTAR.
LA MANCOMUNIDAD SE MUERE POR UN CAMBIO.
TE OÍMOS ALTO Y CLARO.

BIEN, ESTAMOS AQUÍ. ¿DE QUÉ VA TODO ESTO?
ME PREOCUPA QUE VAYAN A COMETER UN TERRIBLE ERROR.
¿COMO VENDER A TU GENTE POR UN BONITO APARTAMENTO?
ESO ESTÁ FUERA DE LUGAR.
NO ESTOY DE HUMOR PARA UNA LECCIÓN. TAL VEZ ME EQUIVOQUE, PERO LAS APUESTAS PARECEN ESTAR JODIDAMENTE ALTAS AQUÍ. CREO QUE ES HORA DE DEJAR DE SER AMABLE.
¿POR QUÉ IBAS A QUERER DEJAR DE SER AMABLE? ¿CUÁL ES TU OBJETIVO CON ESTO?
¿SÓLO ESTÁS BUSCANDO PELEA?
TENGO QUE DECIR QUE COINCIDO CON MICHONNE. POR LO QUE PUEDO DECIR, NADIE, INCLUYENDO A LA GENTE A CARGO DE LA MANCOMUNIDAD, CREE QUE AQUÍ NO HAYA ESPACIO PARA MEJORAR.
CREO QUE ES POSIBLE QUE PODAMOS TRABAJAR TODOS JUNTOS PARA HACER QUE LAS COSAS SEAN MEJORES PARA TODOS.
ESTAMOS DE ACUERDO EN LO QUE DEBE HACERSE, TAN SÓLO DISCREPAMOS EN CÓMO LLEGAR ALLÍ.
SINCERAMENTE, RICK, ES UN ALIVIO OÍRTE DECIR ESO. ESTABA EMPEZANDO A PREOCUPARME DE VERDAD POR EL CAMINO QUE ESTABAN TOMANDO.
YO TAMBIÉN CREO QUE PODEMOS TRABAJAR JUNTOS CON PAMELA Y SU GENTE PARA CORREGIR CUALQUIER ERROR QUE HAYA EN SU SISTEMA.
POR ESO ESPERO QUE NO LES IMPORTE QUE INVITARA--

ESCUCHAR DESDE EL PASILLO NO ES PRECISAMENTE MI ESTILO. NO OBSTANTE, ME COMPLACE MUCHO OÍR QUE TÚ Y YO ESTAMOS EN LA MISMA LÍNEA, RICK...
...PERO, DWIGHT, LO SIENTO, PERO TÚ SIMPLEMENTE VAS A TENER QUE IRTE.
¿QUÉ ESTÁS HACIENDO? SE SUPONÍA QUE SÓLO SERÍAS TÚ. ¡¿POR QUÉ LES HAS TRAÍDO?!
¡ACCEDISTE A VENIR AQUÍ A HABLAR!
¡¿HABLAR?! ¡¿CON GENTE QUE CONSPIRA CONTRA MÍ?!
¿ESTÁS LOCA?
MICHONNE, ¿QUÉ HAS HECHO?
¿NO LO ENTIENDES, RICK? ELLA ESTÁ CON ELLOS AHORA.
SE ACABÓ.
ESTOY DEL LADO DE CUALQUIERA QUE QUIERA SOLUCIONAR ESTO PACÍFICAMENTE.
LES TRAJE A TODOS AQUÍ PARA QUE PUDIÉRAMOS HABLAR. TENEMOS QUE TRANQUILIZARNOS TODOS Y HACER ESO.

¡NO EXISTE NINGUNA SOLUCIÓN A ESTO QUE NO HAGA QUE ELLA *PIERDA PODER!*
¡¿DE *VERDAD* CREES QUE PUEDES CONVENCERLA PACÍFICAMENTE DE QUE RENUNCIE A SU PODER SOBRE ESTA GENTE?!
DWIGHT, POR FAVOR. TE LO ASEGURO, SIEMPRE ELEGIRÍA LO QUE FUERA MEJOR PARA LA GENTE DE LA MANCOMUNIDAD. ME TOMO MI PAPEL AQUÍ MUY SERIAMENTE.
¡¿ES UNA PUTA BROMA?!
¡¿DE VERDAD SOY EL ÚNICO AQUÍ QUE PUEDE VER A TRAVÉS DE TODA ESTA MIERDA?!
YA VEO QUE NO HAY MANERA DE EVITAR ESTO.
GUARDIAS, *ARRESTEN* A ESTE HOMBRE.
HÁGALO MÁS FÁCIL PARA USTED, NO SE RESISTA.

¡QUE TODO EL MUNDO DÉ UN PUTO PASO ATRÁS O LE VOLARÉ SU JODIDA CABEZA!

¡DWIGHT, BAJA ESE ARMA!

NO PUEDO HACER ESO, RICK. CONOZCO A ESTA GENTE. YA SEA NEGAN O ESTA MUJER, LA ÚNICA COSA QUE RESPETAN ES EL PODER.
ESTO ES LO ÚNICO A LO QUE HARÁ CASO. OBSERVA.
DILES QUE NO SE MUEVAN, O MUERES AHORA MISMO.
QUÉDEN-SE DONDE ESTÁN.
¿VES?
TENEMOS TODA LA VENTAJA, RICK. PODRÍAMOS DERRIBAR A SU LÍDER DE UNA VEZ POR TODAS. TODO EMPEZARÍA A IR BIEN SIN ELLA.
LA GENTE DE AQUÍ NOS LO AGRADECERÍA. YA LO SABES.
ASÍ ES COMO TIENE QUE SER.
TENE-MOS QUE HACER-LO.

¡BLAM!

WHUDD.
GRACIAS, RICK.
NO OLVIDARÉ ESTO.
MICHONNE, ENVIARÉ A ALGUIEN A LIMPIAR ESTO.

¿ESTÁS CONTEN-TA?
¿QUÉ?

TÚ HICISTE ESTO.
¿QUÉ?
DWIGHT ESTÁ MUERTO A CAUSA DE LO QUE TÚ HICISTE.
¿CREES QUE NO PODÍA MANEJAR A DWIGHT? ¡¿DE VERDAD CREES QUE IBA A PERSUADIRME DE PONER MÁS VIDAS EN PELIGRO?!
¡¿NO PODÍAS SIMPLEMENTE CONFIAR EN MÍ?!
¿POR QUÉ LLEVASTE ALLÍ A PAMELA? ¿CÓMO CREÍAS QUE IBA A IR ESO?
NO LO SÉ.
NUNCA TE PERDONARÉ ESTO. NUNCA OLVIDARÉ CÓMO ME ARRINCONASTE-- LO QUE ME HICISTE HACER.

¡¿LO QUE YO TE HICE HACER?!
DWIGHT ERA INESTABLE. TÚ SABÍAS QUE IBA A COLAPSARSE EN CUALQUIER MOMENTO ¡¿Y DE ALGUNA MANERA TE OBSESIONAS POR LO QUE HICISTE?!
¿NO TE DAS CUENTA? ¡LO QUE HICISTE SALVARÁ VIDAS!
¡EVITASTE UNA GUERRA!

¿LO HICE?
¿O ACABO DE UNIRME AL BANDO EQUIVOCADO EN UNA?

LETTER HACKS

WRITE TO US AT: WALKINGDEAD@SKYBOUND.COM

Dwight's wild ride comes to a merciful (?) end. Dwight was a survivor, his ability to switch allegiances key to his longevity... but he never seemed happy. No move made him happy, and while he proved not to be a great leader, he always took issue with leadership. It looked like he finally pulled it all together in The Whisperer War... but that was short-lived. It's also hard to forget, since his redemption arc was overshadowed by that other former leader of the Saviors... Dwight MURDERED ABRAHAM 89 issues ago (!), so there's something poetic about him never seeing the end coming either. You know what? I'm okay with Dwight dying. However, I'm not quite sure what to think about Rick or Michonne's involvement in it... so I'm curious to hear your reactions.

Also, this month marks the end of Bill Sienkiewicz's masterful 15th anniversary covers for us with his depiction of Negan. I was honestly going to avoid talking about or printing letters that mentioned Negan... but Bill's portrait is too damn fine a piece of art for me not to mention. Thanks, Bill!

Who's Negan?

And I just wanted to chime in and say the esteemed Mr. Sienkiewicz's covers that he's done this year are a real highlight in the run of this series. Hitting 15 years is amazing enough, but to have these amazing, personal character portraits to commemorate all the characters we've loved and lost (or will lose) was the icing on the cake. Thanks so much for the amazing work, Bill!!

Also, this is the last issue of 2018... another year done. I want to thank everyone for another great year. Looking at what we have in store for 2019... it's going to be a big year, so buckle up!

Now let's dive into some letters!

Hello Creators of My Obsession,

I want to start by saying I don't know how you continue to make this the most anticipated part of each month to me, but every issue just leaves me wanting more to the full story. This is my favorite series of any platform by far, and I thank you so much for creating it. I have really enjoyed exploring the Commonwealth little by little, and I love the idea of Eugene being able to expand the world with a direct mode of transport (With or without Pamela leading one side of the tracks, though I feel she still has a lot more story to emerge).

Who has to repair all those tracks and clean the walkers from the area? Someone not as smart as Eugene, I'll tell you that.

I am very nervous about Dwight because I love his character and I am deeply afraid that he is going to cause trouble and it won't end up being good for anyone, but especially not himself.

Does it feel good to be right, Ryan?

Does it?

One question I had was will there ever be a bit of expansion of animals? I know they are more vulnerable than humans in this intense and dangerous world, but I have to think somewhere in the world there was someone who tried their best to save a group of animals. I work at a humane society and if this world were to become a reality I have plans to barricade the shelter and make it safe until civilization begins to emerge again (Like it is doing now in the comics). Because the world isn't the same without a nice dog in the neighborhood. Have you ever thought of a shelter being located in the Commonwealth where someone may have been protecting the pooches, cats, and any other species that could've been saved? Either way, I love the Walking Dead universe and I am immensely excited for the show to return (4 DAYS) and I cannot wait to see how this volume of the comic wraps up. I hope there are more volumes for many years to come. I will be reading them decades from now if we would be so lucky to be have this wonderful universe that long.

Sincerely,
Ryan J. Finigan
West Jefferson, OH

When I read this, I first thought you meant, has there been a population explosion among animals? So that's what I'm going to answer. Because, face it, without humanity actively trying to encroach on natural habits and destroying them, nature would allow wild animals to thrive again. That's even factoring in walkers. Most animals would smell those a mile away and just stay the hell away—or hear them and scamper off. (I'm picturing deer in my head. Have you ever gotten close enough to a deer to pet it? Hell no! They're always scampering off before you can admire their cuteness up close.) Now I just want to see an entire issue about a bear fighting zombies and am sad that will never happen.

We had a tiger fighting zombies! And in the early days we even had a zombie eating a deer! We may see more animals eventually. Sorry it's been so animal light for the most part.

Mr. Kirkman, et al-

The last page of issue #184 was encouraging. I would love to see positive change happen without ANOTHER war of some kind.

Agreed. That's why the bastard Dwight had to die.

The scene where Rick gets Pam to help clean up was FANTASTIC. As for Sebastian, I'd love to see him become more than a cliched, one-dimensional character. Yeah, we love to have people to hate, but a title with complex, nuanced interpersonal relationships like this one is beyond that kind of kowtowing to its readers. I'm probably being impatient, but it still bugs me. Speaking of things that bug me, the post-coital conversation between Princess and Officer Mercer was probably the most ridiculous, juvenile exchange I've seen in the series. This is obviously not the case with Mr. Kirkman, but it comes off like an I-can't-get-any-in-real-life-so-I'll-write-characters-who-have-lots-of-sex-and-talk-about-it situation. DEFINITELY an exception to the

normally non-juvenile dialogue...oh, wait. Negan. Nevermind.

Keep up the great work everyone,
Jason
Rochester, NY

Not defending the scene at all, or my work on it, because if you didn't like it, you didn't like it... and that's okay. BUT I will say that I purposefully write Princess to sound kind of juvenile. She's very matter-of-fact, plain spoken, and oddly optimistic and positive, which makes her sound somewhat child-like. Her dialogue in that scene could read as stilted, "I am happy today, today is a good day, things are good," if not read in the way it's intended. She's supposed to be somewhat spastic in the way she talks.

Sorry you didn't like the scene though. I've been known to have my fair share of off-days.

____

Hey TWD team,

I am a true comic convert, having started reading Compendiums 1-3 then buying the single issues about #160. I so enjoyed the Letter Hacks and the fan's interaction with Sina/Sean & Robert that I back collected the entire series of single issues to read Letter Hacks!

Wow. I don't write any of this to be re-read. I have no idea what I say issue to issue. Don't use anything I've said before against me now!

I've always wondered if I contradict myself at all over the course of these letters columns. I don't re-read or... y'know... recall them at all. To protect spoilers, I am at times downright dishonest in these pages, so I'm sure there's got to be a few oddly contradictory statements here and there. One day I'll sit down and re-read the whole Letter Hacks run (I won't).

Having the benefit of nearly 15 years of hindsight, I have a few questions and a request.

I am glad to see TWD's focus on the human dynamic such that we encounter a society that is not just autocratic in its rule but also in the forcing of jobs without any obvious ability to achieve a higher level of prosperity or individual life choices. This leads me to a common such occurrence when this happens - there is a civilian or military coup who oust the leaders. The Commonwealth looks pretty unstable right now, I think Dwight's idea to set the people free is the right one. But without the military strength, wouldn't the best strategy be to create an organized rebellion among the people? Look how much social / psychological damage a small group did in the riot.

After 5 years in the story, and being a huge fan favorite, can we expect to see Negan again in the future? I think his character is strong enough you could do a spinoff series such as Fear the Walking Dead on AMC or even a Negan mini-series would be great to see. I understand this would put some strain on the team so perhaps a book every other month? #BringBackNegan.

I lied. I do remember some of what I write, and it's no Negan. Or spinoffs. But mostly no Negan.

Who?

I am incredibly excited about TWD Day and have my orders in for the blind bag books. But looking even further ahead to issue 200 - you're getting close! - I have one request. While I enjoy the artistic style of the black and white books, the color covers at times add a great additional realism. What about publishing the entire issue 200 in color? That would be really impressive, bringing Charlie's great art to life in a whole new way.

You want color now, too?! I love how on its face this is a ridiculous idea... like we've done 199 issues and NOW we're going to do one in color... but I'd also love to see what it looks like. We still have another year to think about this.

Thinking...

Looking forward to the journey of the Commonwealth arc and what the future holds for TWD!

All the best,
Tom McElroy
Austin, TX

Us, too, thanks for being along for the ride, Tom!

Still thinking...

____

So it seems to be a consistent habit of mine that I normally write in whenever Dwight is doing something. Issue #184 is not looking promising for the future of Dwight, this dude just has to keep starting problems and acting out. I'm hoping this isn't gonna lead to an eventual brutal death, but I am starting to question how much I actually like him. Hopefully he gets laid and just chills out eventually.

He seemed to have a healthy relationship with Laura, so I don't think a lack of sex was the issue. Also, now that Dwight's gone, that mean you won't write in ever again?

Two other quick points I wanted to cover. When is Negan gonna get brought back into the fold? I know you won't give any definitive answer, but man do I want to see how he plays into the world with the Commonwealth becoming an established and permanent power. I'd love to see Negan lead a group again. ;) And the final note I wanted to make, I don't buy action figures or merchandise for many things in general. But I really do love these figures for the comic series. I actually just went out of my way to buy Beta, R.I.P. But I think it would be a huge mistake to not make either a Mercer or Commonwealth guard figure. Preferably both. Love all the hard work and the direction you're taking with this series!

All the best,
Brent from Pittsburgh

That Beta figure is pretty cool. Obligatory plug for the Skybound online shop for all the cool figures we've made—like most recently, Princess!—and who knows, maybe Mercer will be next.

No comment.

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Sup guys/gals. Something that's been on my mind: why hasn't Eugene made a push for a team to go to the Library of Congress and attempt to save some of the intellectual and artistic properties there? Especially after the War w the Saviors concluded and there was a time of (seemingly) relative peace and prosperity. Perhaps there's information and/or art that could help them in infrastructure, transportation (like patented plans for a coal-powered train, perhaps?) or help future generations know what once was society and give them something to stride for reclaiming/surpassing. It'd prob be in decent enough shape just like when the first road crew found the canned food in Wiltshire Estates Rick surmised correctly that ppl go for the high ticket items in looting first, books and papers would prob be ignored. Also it'd be great to see Charlie draw the library and that section of DC.

My guess is it's not a priority compared to other survival needs. Also, from when we last saw it, DC was still infested with walkers, making it no cakewalk to secure any of these assets.

Yes, that.

Anyways, thanks for producing this comic every month, it's rad af. Also, as a veteran I loved Abraham and thought Eugene was such a cowardly fuck for The Lie, but man, he's become one of my fav characters.

Shaun Kerr
Athens, GA

I love how fans get to watch these characters grow and are able to change their minds about them. That's always awesome to hear! Thanks!

Mercer has certainly attracted a lot of my interest in this latest comics and i was wonder how tall is he because in the comics he looks massive at least 6'4.

Thanks
Tom, Australia

That's a fair guess. The boots give him a slight lift and the mohawk is easily worth an extra inch.

Hi Robert, Sean and everyone at Skybound,

In August we were on a 20 day, 3.500 mile trip through California, Nevada, Utah and Arizona. We often had the impression of being on a movie set: we 'know' your country thanks to tv shows and films and books and comics but being there for real was an amazing experience!

On our first day in L.A. we went to Universal Studios Hollywood and had the opportunity to see The Walking Dead Attraction: lots of roamers indeed, my 16 year-old daughter Louise wasn't that impressed but I took a cool picture of her with a man at the entrance wearing a bloody blue jacket, my 13 year-old son Gabriel made us laugh because he was sooooo scared by roamers trying to reach him!!

We have seen so many beautiful places and things and met so many nice people during our trip, but that's not the point: while driving (and not driving, actually) I like to listen to some music, and one day on US 101 I was listening to The Narrows by Grant Lee Philips and I wondered: what is the place of music in a world like this? Do people sometimes sing? Do they pick a guitar and play some acoustic versions of songs they remember? What kind of music are they thinking of? (I guess in the Commonwealth some people have 'Rage Against The Machine' in mind!). Yourselves, are you listening to some music, while working or not? What kind?

That said, thanks for all these amazing stories you wrote since the beginning; thank you for having sent Negan out of the place; no thank you for having killed Andrea...

Yves, from France.

There's probably a lot of singing. I imagine it's all bastardized songs from what people can remember, so they get like four lines right, and then just hum, mumble through the rest, and make up new lyrics. And a lot of people who can't sing "Sara Smile" in the right register or something.

There not being any sound in comics, it's not something I've ever really thought about. There's definitely more singing and music in the show. In the comic, singing would just be words with music notes nearby, and I've never thought that really looked good. And anytime there are songs in books or comics, I'm COMPLETELY incapable of making them sound like songs in my head as I read, so maybe I'm biased!

As for what I listen to when I'm writing... lots of Nick Cave and the Bad Seeds and the somewhat related Dirty Three. (I know I've answered this in a past letters column). I'm pretty much an old man when it comes to music, so I listen to a lot of Neil Young, David Bowie and Bob Seger. My favorite new music is Fleet Foxes. I mostly listen to music that is mellow and calming... but right now I'm listening to Metallica ...And Justice For All.

Hello Robert, Sean, Charlie and all TWD Crew.

Long time reader, I am admin of only "TWD Polish Comic Group" on Facebook and on behalf of Polish readers sending kindest regards, we all love you! :)

In couple of last LH you and Sean gave us hints that we might never see Negan again. For sure lots of readers asked when he's coming back. Maybe I am in the minority but... As much as I adore Negan I don't want him to return! 174 was the PERFECT way of saying goodbye to him and it has moving dramatic development. The ending, burning the bat turns us EPIC full circle to the beginning of Here's Negan. Man, it was so fucking poetic when he goes away into the sunset (or rather fullmoon). Do you know that no main character has ever left this story just walking away? Negan is unique, as always.

Second thing, I see what you're doing here with Michonne. ;) Man, I don't know if don't love her more than Andrea, it will be another awful loss. Mich was always so complicated character, a troubled soul. I'm glad she finally has found daughter & some peace. Btw, the moment when she hands over katana to Eugene was incredibly drawn (Charlie's master!) and touching as hell. Here's my question: could you reveal what is Michonne's law specialty? Btw, was Governor Milton really a governor or other kind of politician?

Thank you for continuing this epic story, can't wait to see more CMW drama!

PS Definitely #TeamMercerPrincess!

Sincerely,
Peter Macioszek,
Lodz, POLAND

Have I said Pamela was even a politician before all this? In my mind, she might have had political aspirations, but she definitely wasn't a governor before. Which makes their whole "do the jobs you had" policy very hypocritical.

Who is this Negan everyone keeps bringing up?!

See you in January! I wouldn't say a thing that could possibly spoil one moment from the next issue. We wish you the happiest of holidays and a happy New Year... I hope Dwight's brains leaking on the floor didn't ruin anything. Thank you for being fantastic fans. Onto Year 16: the year TWD gets to legally drive a car. Finally!!!

-Sean Mackiewicz

Oh my god... 16... legal driving age... I'm... I'm getting so goddamn old. Don't talk to me until January. Yeesh! I created a comic that would be old enough to drive if it were a human. This is so weird. See you next month!!

-Robert Kirkman

THE WALKING DEAD

AT-ZOMBIEFACTORY